

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of portably handling a movie comprising:
storing electronically readable movie into a personal movie storage
5 module including an atomic resolution storage memory component; and
recalling selectively the movie from the memory component of the
personal storage module into a personal movie playback device for viewing by a
user.
- 10 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the storing step further includes:
transferring a copy of the movie from a movie purchase center into the
memory component of the personal storage module.
- 15 3. The method of claim 2 and the transferring step further comprising:
downloading the movie from a remotely located centralized movie
database.
4. The method of claim 1 and further comprising:
repeating the storing step to capture additional electronically readable
20 movies into the memory component of the storage module.
5. The method of claim 1 wherein the recalling step further comprises the
playback device including at least one of a notebook computer, a personal movie
player, and a seatback-mounted movie viewer.
- 25 6. The method of claim 1 wherein, the storing step further comprises:
providing the storage module with a communication interface, and a
power supply.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein the memory component further includes a controller logic for operating the storage device and communicating between the memory component and the communication interface.
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8. The method of claim 1 and further comprising:
performing the storing step and the recalling step in a broadband frequency format.
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9. A personal movie storage module comprising:
a storage device including an atomic resolution storage device memory component capable of storing at least one movie; and
a communication interface for communicating to and from the memory component of the storage module.
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10. The module of claim 9, and further comprising a controller unit located on the atomic resolution storage device for operating the storage device and communicating between the memory component and the communication interface.
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11. The module of claim 9, wherein the atomic resolution storage device further comprises:
a field emitter fabricated by semiconductor microfabrication techniques capable of generating an electron beam current; and
25 a storage medium in proximity to the field emitter and having a storage area in one of a plurality of states to represent the information stored in the storage area.
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12. The module of claim 11, wherein an effect is generated when the electron beam current bombards the storage area, wherein the magnitude of the effect depends upon the state of the storage area, and wherein the information stored in a storage area is read by measuring the magnitude of the effect.

13. The module of claim 11, further comprising:
a plurality of storage areas on the storage medium, with each storage area
being similar to the one recited in claim 11; and
5 a microfabricated mover in the storage device to position different
storage areas to be bombarded by the electron beam current.
14. The module of claim 13, further comprising:
a plurality of field emitters, with each emitter being similar to the one
10 recited in claim 11, the plurality of field emitters being spaced apart, with each
emitter being responsible for a number of storage areas on the storage medium;
and
such that a plurality of the field emitters can work in parallel to increase
the data rate of the storage device.
- 15 15. The module of claim 9 further comprising:
a housing which encloses the ultra-high capacity storage device and the
communication interface.
- 20 16. A portable movie handling system comprising:
a portable movie storage module comprising:
an atomic resolution storage memory device of storing at least
one movie; and
a communication interface for communicating to and from the
25 storage device;
a purchase system permitting purchasable access to movies stored as
electronically readable information including:
a centralized movie database storing a collection of movies for
downloading to multiple points-of purchase; and
30 a point-of-purchase center for selectively transferring a copy of a
selected movie from the centralized database to the memory device of the
movie storage module; and

a movie playback device for viewing movie from the storage memory device of the movie storage module.

17. The system of claim 15 wherein the playback device is at least one of a
5 notebook computer, a seatback mounted movie viewer, and a personal portable playback device.

18. The system of claim 15 wherein the centralized movie database
comprises a cable/satellite TV network and the point-of-purchase center
10 comprises a cable/satellite TV receiver.